

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF

NEGRO WELFARE LEAGUE OF NEW JERSEY

Monday, Oct. 7th, 1918.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the Negro Welfare League of N.J., was held on the above date at 3:30 P.M. 15 Central Avenue. Those present were:- Mrs. Gregory, Dr. nail, Rev. H.K.Spearman, Dean Pickens, Vice President of Morgan College, Baltimore, Md. present by invitation, Mr. Eugene Kinckle Jones of the National Urban League of New York, also present by invitation, Mrs. Little, Mr. Brown, Mr. Powell, Mr. Little, Mr. MacDougall, Mr. Ashby, Miss Helen Pendleton and the President, Dr. Lusk who presided.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved with a slight correction by Dr. Lusk, as to the personnel of the Committee on repairs and improvements of the building at 212 Bank Street,- Dr. Lusk, Chairman, Mr. Dusenberry and Mr. Ashby.

Mr. MacDougall, treasurer's <sup>473</sup> whose report was so recently handed in, there was no further report asked for. Mr. Lusk then read a letter from Mr. Dusenberry, stating that the Deed has been placed on file with the Surrogate for recording. The letter reads as follows:-

"The Executive Committee must decide as to renting one of the apartments and the basement. These rent now for \$30. and \$14. respectively and if continued will help pay the added expenses.

The deed has been placed on file with the surrogate for recording.

The taxes due this month must be paid by the League, and they have been deducted from the price. A statement of the transaction is in the hands of Miss Pendleton. Insurance has been paid to 1921 and policies will be changed as to ownership. The coal in cellar has also been paid for.

I would suggest that we pay off the \$900. on a/c mortgage so it will remain \$7000. Now it is \$7900.

Please report these matters to the Executive Committee at its next meeting."

Yours,

(signed) J.P.Dusenberry.

It was then moved, seconded, and carried that Mr. Dusenberry's report be placed on record with thanks to him.

with regards to the important clause concering the suggestion as to paying off the rest of the mortgage with the money now on hand, it was moved, seconded and carried that the mortgage be paid off if it is found advisable, but a reasonable sum retained for improvements.

It was next moved, seconded, and carried that the report from Mr. Dusenberry's lawyer, Mr. Lehlbach be filed with the minutes. See report.

Miss Pendleton then read a letter which had been turned over by Mr. Dusenberry from 45 residents of the neighborhood. The letter reads as follows:-

"TO MR. JAMES P. DUSENBERRY:-

We, the undersigned, owners of property and tenants residing in the neighborhood of 212 Bank Street, do hereby respectfully protest to you and the organization you represent against the use by it of said property as a home for colored girls.

While it is true Bank Street is a main thoroughfare to neighboring streets such as Sidney Place and Nelson Place are exclusively residential, and in a large number of cases the property is occupied by the owners who have lived there for many years.

It is the judgement of the undersigned that the contemplated use will materially depreciate the value of the property, and we respectfully urge that the association do not acquire title to the property so that any prospective damage to us may be avoided."

Miss Pendleton then read a proposed letter to each of these property owners in the neighborhood, which reads as follows:-

"Dear Sir or Madam:-

Mr. James P. Dusenberry has referred the petition signed by you in which you protest against the use of the property at 212 Bank Street as a home for colored working girls to the Executive Committee of the Negro Welfare League of New Jersey.

The property has been already purchased by the League and we regret that you fear some prospective damage to the value of your property in the neighborhood. We believe, however, that when the community gets acquainted with the group of people who are carrying on this work, who represent the best colored and white elements in Newark, as well as the self-respecting young women who will live there, that no depreciation of property values will occur.

The League works not as colored people nor as white people for the narrow benefit of any group alone, but together, as American citizens for the common good of our common city, our common country. It has already been a helpful force in Newark's social service and we are sure that when you know us better, you will agree with us that the colored working girl should have not only a square deal in business, but a decent and comfortable room to which she can come when her day's work is over.

We respectfully and cordially invite you to call at the offices of the League when we are fully established there, and take an interest in our work."

Sincerely,

(Signed) Helen B. Pendleton,

HRP/MO

Ex. Committee Sec'y.

It was moved, seconded and carried that a copy of this letter be sent to each one of these neighbors.

Mrs. Eugene Gregory then read the following report of the meeting to arrange co-operation between the Phyllis Wheatley Association and the League. (See minutes of Sept. 24th.) It was moved, seconded, and carried that this report be placed on file and its suggestion adopted, and that the Secretary shall report the same to the Phyllis Wheatley Association.

Dr. Lusk reported that he had inspected the property at 147 Bank Street, which was proposed by a number of the Committee to buy instead of its present property, and that he found it utterly unsuitable for the purpose. Miss Pendleton then reported that the house at 212 Bank Street is practically ready for occupancy, although repairs are needed on the top floor and probably other things can be done. It is also important to have someone immediately live in this house as the former owner is moving away on the 8th instant. She suggested that Dr. Lusk will consider engaging a matron for this home so that the home can be started. Dr. Lusk said that he did not know what the Committee would do, but that he thought perhaps for ~~several~~ months they would install a matron there in order to begin the work and possibly later on, pay only a part of the salary since the worker paid by them in the past has been doing Field Work almost entirely.

It was then moved, seconded, and carried that Mrs. Gregory take charge of the co-operation between the Phyllis Wheatley Association and the League. The Chairman next called for the Secretary's report. Mr. Ashby then read the report for July, August, September. See report.

Mr. Ashby then read a statement to the effect that he

had been appointed one of the Supervisors under the direction of Dr. George E. Haynes, Director of Negro Economics, Dept. of Labor, Washington, D. C., and that his work has already begun. The question therefore arose as to someone taking his place in Newark. He will live in Newark and therefore will be available to give advice and such assistance that he can give without injuring his own work. The National Urban League, through Mr. Jones, recommended Mr. Ashby for his past year's position. The question then arose whether Mr. Jones could find another worker. After the members of the Committee had expressed their appreciation of Mr. Ashby's services and expressed regret of his being obliged to give up the work, there was satisfaction expressed at his being called to such an important patriotic service and Mrs. Gregory, moved, which was seconded and carried that Mr. Ashby's communication be noted and that Mr. Jones be asked to report as soon as possible what can be done by the National Urban League to supply his place and that upon hearing from Mr. Jones, the whole matter be taken up for settlement.

The Secretary then read a letter from Ernest D. Easton, stating that Mr. Ashby had promised \$10. from the League and that the Secretary urge the Treasurer to O.K. this bill. The Secretary then read a proposed budget. It was moved, seconded and carried that this budget be used for the following year. See budget.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Secretary.

- C O P Y -

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OF

--MR. LINHLBACH-S

STATEMENT on closing of title on purchase of premises  
#212 Bank Street, Newark, N.J., by Negro Welfare League  
of New Jersey from Rocco Parlatoore and wife, Oct. 1, 1918.

Purchase price - - - - - \$14,000.

Deposit paid on account - - - - - 500.  
\$13,500.

Add insurance adjustments on unexpired term  
on two policies - - - - - 145.28

Add amount allowed for coal, - - - - - 140.85  
\$13,786.13

Credit total amount of 1918 taxes at rate  
of 2.90 on valuation of \$10,800. \$313.20

Deduct bond and mortgage held by  
Fidelity Trust Company,  
Trustee - - - - - \$7,900.

Interest thereon from June  
14, 1918, to Oct. 1, 1918 - - 115.22  
8015.22

Deduct water rent - bill to  
Sept. 3 - - - - - \$11.

Adjustment from Sept.  
3 to Oct. 1 - - - - - - 12.34 12.34 8,340.76

Balance paid in check of Building Fund of  
Negro Welfare League --- \$5,445.37

NEGRO WELFARE LEAGUE OF

NEW JERSEY

Copy of letter written by Mr. Ashby.

October 7th, 1918.

After a year's experience with the Negro Welfare League in which there have come many of the great problems which perplex the brain and the soul, many other experiences, however, which were of an enduring pleasantness, I regret the action I must now take.

My Government calls and I must answer, because of a recently accepted position I am now asking for a leave of absence for an indefinite period or tendering my resignation as Secretary of the Negro Welfare League of New Jersey, pledging my financial, moral, and advisory support to it and hoping sincerely, believing undoubtedly in its success.

Respectfully presented,

(Signed) William M. Ashby.

## PROPOSED BUDGET - NEGRO WELFARE LEAGUE

276  
OCTOBER 1918 - OCTOBER 1919.ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Executive Secretary - - - - -               | \$1500.00        |
| Assistant - - - - -                         | 900.00           |
| Clerk - - - - -                             | 600.00           |
| Telephone- postage, -stationery, -carfare - | 600.00           |
| Furniture and sundries - - - - -            | <u>200.00</u>    |
|   | <u>\$3800.00</u> |

## EXPENSES AT HOUSE (212 Bank Street)

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Salary of Matron - - - - -             | \$600.00         |
| Interest on Mortgage \$7000. - - - - - | 350.00           |
| Taxes - - - - -                        | 312.00           |
| Janitor and cleaning - - - - -         | 300.00           |
| Gas & Light #8. per month - - - - -    | 96.00            |
| Repairs - - - - -                      | 50.00            |
| Water - - - - -                        | 25.00            |
| Insurance - - - - -                    | 20.00            |
| TOTAL EXPENSES ON HOUSE - - - - -      | <u>\$1753.00</u> |
| TOTAL BUDGET - - - - -                 | <u>\$5553.00</u> |

## - I N C O M E -

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Income on Rents - \$46.50 per month - - - - -  | \$558.00         |
| (\$14. per mo. from Mr. Wm. Elvonto who)<br>carries on a Pressing & Cleaning Busi-<br>ness in basement. (\$2.50 from rental)<br>(of one apartment - total - \$46.50. ) |                  |
| Income from girls - - - - -  | <u>500.00</u>    |
| TOTAL INCOME - - - - -   | <u>\$1158.00</u> |
| TOTAL TO BE RAISED - - - - -   | <u>\$4395.00</u> |

## HOW BUDGET CAN BE RAISED

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Phyllis Wheatley Assoc. asked to pledge - -\$600.00 |                  |
| Salary of Matron paid, we hope, by Freshy. 600.00   |                  |
| (same who paid Miss Robinson.)                      |                  |
| Subscription from members, donations, etc.          |                  |
| to be raised by Ex. Secy. Ex. Committee             |                  |
| and League members - - - - -                        | <u>3195.00</u>   |
| TOTAL EXPENSES -1919 - - - - -                      | <u>\$4395.00</u> |

N.B.:-

Last year - the first year of the Society -  
the total raised was - \$1835.00.  
We surely can raise \$3195.00 this year.

Respectfully submitted,